



The GARSzette

The Official Newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society
May 2014 <http://www.gars.org/> Volume 23, Issue 4



Georgia QSO Party 2014

A perfect Spring day!



What a great turn-out!

At Harbins Park, 2995 Luke Edwards Road, Dacula, GA!

Message from the President

As I draft this note, May Madness is in full swing. The repeaters are buzzing with activity as OM's (Old Members) and NM's (New Members) are seeking to make those new contacts. This is one of the best activities that GARS has come up with to break our new hams of mic shyness and get the old members to come out of the woodwork. Good luck to you all!

Another "Satellites in the Park" is in the log book. The weather was clear, cool and a bit breezy but spirits were high in the hopes of making those skyward connections. After breaking the equipment out of storage several technical glitches were encountered but everything got assembled and ready in time to attempt the first contact a little after 9:00 am. We heard pieces of a QSO but were unable to raise anyone. A couple of passes by the ISS (digipeater mode) were unsuccessful as well. Later in the day we managed to pull out some faint beeps between telemetry transmissions from Funcube AO-73 but were unable to hit the transponder. To an outsider this all may sound like failure but to the participants and observers in the park it amounts to invaluable experience. We will be much more prepared for that 100 bonus point contact at Field Day and many came away with much more knowledge about this special area of the hobby.

With spring here and Field Day approaching now is the time to break out that portable gear, those tangled an-



tenna wires, and discharged batteries from the closet. Spring and early summer bring the potential for serious weather conditions and it's up to all of us to be ready. April 26th brought us ARES Deployment Day with some great demonstrations on

how to remain prepared. We learned how to use a throwing bag and antenna launcher to get those wires way up in the trees. I was amazed at how well our NVIS antenna worked at just 12 foot off the ground and I got to learn many details on deploying the ARES command center trailer. Of particular interest was the demonstration on portable power. We learned about solar power, power connectors, converters, batteries, gas generators, and more. It's not just the Boy Scouts that should "Be Prepared".

Hope to see all of you soon at our upcoming meetings and events, especially Field Day!

Thanks and 73s,

Rick, N4XYY

"It is not the class of license the Amateur holds, but the Class of the Amateur that holds the license."

[Author Unknown]

GARS May Meeting

“Field Day Operations From The Novice Prospective”

By David-KA4KKF, Kyle-W4KDA, Earl-AF4FG

Tuesday May 13, 2014

Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7pm.
(except December)

at

Sports Aviation Complex - Hangar 1

690 Airport Road

Lawrenceville, GA 30045

[Directions](#)

Read Charlie's (K4YDB) message on page 18.

THIRD SATURDAY on page 17 has been updated.

GARS Communications

2 Meter Repeater

147.075(+) MHz
82.5 PL Tone

APRS

144.390 -- 1200 Baud
W4GR

D-Star

WD4STR
145.060 + (1.4 MHz)
440.550 + (5 MHz)

Main Repeater Site
Oak Street,
Lawrenceville

2 Meter Repeater

147.255(+) MHz
107.2 PL Tone

6 Meter Repeater

53.110 (-1 MHz)
82.5 PL Tone

70 Cm Repeaters

444.525(+) MHz
82.5 PL Tone
442.100(+)
82.5 PL Tone

Backup Repeater Site
Lanier Mountain,

Don't forget to support our advertisers at the back of the GARzette.

MAY MADNESS

By the time you read this, the contest has already happened.

Watch for the results in the June issue of the GARzette

Scoring

1 point for each voice contact

2 points for each digital contact

1 bonus point for each new member contact*

* New members are those who have joined GARS since 6/1/13
(since a new member cannot contact himself he automatically receives 1 bonus point)

Awards

Top Ten scores receive a unique GARS hat - unique to this year's contest

All participants who turn in a log receive a GARS patch or decal

Georgia QSO Party Pics

The Georgia QSO Party



held

Saturday April 12 & 13, 2014

at

Harbins Park, 2995 Luke Edwards Road, Dacula, GA



(See the REST of the STORY on the next page)

Georgia QSO Party Pics

It was Georgia QSO Party time again. That meant a trip to Saint Simon's Island, GA. So, Mike Weathers, Paul Kelley and I [NormSchklar] headed out to visit our friend Phil Graitcer. Phil had invited some of us last year, so we knew what to expect. But this year things were a little different. Phil had added a Hex Beam on a crankup tower. So for antennas, we used a vertical at the waters edge, a hex beam, an OCF wire and a 40/20 end fed that we put up temporarily. We hauled 2 K3s and a KX3, four computers and many peripherals. We arrived mid afternoon on Friday, so we had plenty of time to get setup. Last year we sort of spread out in the house, but this year we decided to put all the radio gear in one room. Just be sure to use headphones. We were QRP and could even do SSB and CW on the same band with very little interference. Phil had another K3 there, but we decided not to use it with him not being there a good part of the time. Of course we did need to spread out some of the coax and run extensions from Phil's operating position out to the rigs spread out in the shack. Hopefully we marked everything to get it back together. We made a few contacts on Friday evening. All seemed fine. Just waiting on the GQP to start.

Phil left us some instructions and an information package about the island. On it was a list of restaurants. We tried to sample all of them, but the QSO Party got in the way. We did find his list to be very helpful with great food. Saturday morning after a hardy

breakfast at the WH, we were making last minute adjustments to rigs, network and computers. Next thing you know, it's lunch time and BBQ sounded like a great idea. One thing about the island, most places are fairly close. So we headed out for lunch. After standing in line for 30 minutes just to place our order, we pushed and shoved into a place at one of the outside tables. There is some good BBQ on Saint Simon's.

Now it's start time for the GQP. Three stations ready for action. Good antennas, a good history from last year's party. Ready to go. So

where's the party? Bands were very sluggish. On SSB contacts were near impossible. I called CQ until I couldn't talk. Sure, made a few contacts. The CW guys were making a few, but nothing like the year before. We double checked antennas, blamed the coax, blamed the connectors, blamed Phil, but all that didn't help much with the QSO count.

After a few hours, we just blamed propagation. As you can imagine, at dinner time we were glad to take a break and work on Phil's restaurant list. Back to the bands for just a bit before calling it quits for the night. Next morning back to WH and then double checking our equipment and network. The bands seemed just a little better and we started up again. After a few minutes, we realized that even though conditions seemed better than Saturday, they still left a lot to be desired. Phil had come back to the house Sunday early afternoon and we discussed the lack of activity. He insisted all antennas were doing what they should and he has confidence that we're just experiencing poor propagation. We did take a few minutes to put up an 80 meter "inverted V" just in case it might help near the end of the contest. That didn't add much to our tool box, we just struggled along with what we had and accepted

the fact that last year the propagation from Bloody Marsh was on our side.

We enjoyed the weekend. The facility was great, the view was great, some great food and plenty of time to discuss the important issues of the day.

Norm Schklar—WA4ZXV



Satellites in the Park 2014

Saturday, May 03, 2014 several GARS members met at Bogan Park in Buford for the annual Satellites In The Park activity. The weather was nearly perfect, except for an occasional wind gust.



Proceedings got under way shortly after 9 am. Hal, W4IGE, manned the main set-up, consisting of an SSB transceiver and a very high-gain antenna that automatically tracked the satellites. Other GARS members had handheld or tripod mounted antennas.



Satellites came and satellites went, and unfortunately, no one could make any satellite contacts. There were several technical difficulties that prevented any real QSOs (contacts) via satellite. Only Rick, N4XYY, received a brief telemetry signal from AO-73.

The activity could be termed a bust because we did not have any satellite QSOs, but it was a success in



other ways. It was a good shakedown of the satellite system, but more importantly it was a great chance for GARS members to get together and play radio.



By *David Harden*, KJ4CMY

GARS Members Train at Gwinnett ARES

On a beautiful Saturday in April, GARS members were both instructors and students at the Gwinnett ARES Deployment Day. The venue was Peachtree Ridge Park in Suwanee. It is amazing that the weather is always perfect on Deployment Day, and this year was no exception. The people were divided into two groups that went round-robin style.



Ryan, KI4CSM, took people through getting the ARES trailer up and running after setup. Both he and Jon, WB4QDX, described the numerous features build into the trailer to provide emergency communications. Each group went through the checklist as Ryan explained each item. Those attending may not be able to get the trailer in operation in record time, but they are at least familiar with the steps.



Hal, W4IGE, and Ralph, KJ4CNC spoke on emergency power. They demonstrated ways of powering up radios during a deployment when commercial power was not available. Ralph showed us his solar power setup, and Hal provided much useful information about batteries and generators.



Earl, AF4FG, had everyone put up a military pole assembly and explained several things one can do to ensure it stays up. The group even had a demonstration of how well a Near Vertical Incidence Skywave (NVIS) antenna worked. We had a QSO with a ham near Savannah, proving that the NVIS antenna on 40 or 80 meters could cover the entire state of Georgia.



Paul, W4KLY, demonstrated antenna launching with a small bag filled with buckshot. He launched it into a tree with mountain climbing rope. Later, Norm, WA4ZXV, demonstrated his tennis ball launcher.



Those who went learned a lot about emergency communications. Kudos to those who gave the classes, those who assisted, and all those who helped in setup and teardown.

David Harden - KJ4CMY

Field Day

Field Day

June 28 – 29, 2014

Start: 1800 UTC Saturday End: 1800 UTC Sunday

Always the fourth full weekend in June

2014 Field Day finds GARS at a **new site**. It is at the east end of the county. It will be a longer drive for many. This site is out of the way but heavily used by trail walkers and bikers.

We will have a nice size pavilion and an open field plus a lot of trees. There will be signs at the last intersection and the entrance to the park.

We will have 8 stations running. If 10m shuts down, then the station will operate 80m psk.



9:00am - We'll start our setup at ?. This includes unloading and unpacking equipment for the 8 plus stations to include transceivers, tuners, computers, cables, generators, power distribution, drinks, ice, hospitality tent and tables, food supplies, cooking materials, sun screens, work lights, fans, insect repellent.

- Then we will aout WiFi and wired computer network, distribute power, get ropes into trees and pull up the 8 or 10 dipoles.
- Erect supports for and mount the directional antennas.
- Move tables to where they are in proper position for the stations.
- Place the station identification cards.
- Test everything.

11:00am - Crew starts lunch setup. Finish Hospitality Setup

11:30am - Lunch (if you are finished with any critical setup) 12:00noon - Band Captains test out equipment to include the computer network. 12:30pm - Open Hospitality Tent and get everyone signed in. 12:30pm - Finish antenna installations. Test for SWR and get connected to stations.

2:00pm for 24 hours - Field Day actually starts. Depending on propagation, we could have as many as 11 stations making contacts. That means we need lots of help keeping the stations manned for 24 hours.

- Almost for certain 40 meter and 20 meter SSB and CW (that's 4 stations) will be active almost the whole 24 hours.
- 20 meters RTTY or PSK will be open when we start and should be active most of the weekend.
- 80 meter SSB will be active from about 3:30 in the afternoon until morning on Sunday.
- 15 meters will probably open early afternoon.
- 10meters will be open sporatically, but if it is like other Field Day weekends, we'll be operating quite a bit.
- Some bands even though they don't seem open need to be monitored for openings.

2:00pm GOTA (Get On The Air) station goes operational. This station is for new hams or persons wanting to operate a radio with a little help from the GOTA administrator.

FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO [HTTP://GARS.ORG](http://GARS.ORG)

A Reunion via "Remote Hams"

Recently I was working at my computer, listening to my radio and observing various Hams logging into my remote control server (by Remote Hams.com) when 9H1RN, Jim, in Taiwan logged in, went immediately to 21.410 MHz and turned on PreAmp #2 on my radio. Next he turned my beam (Mosley PRO 57B) to a heading of 48 degrees. As I listened I heard a very weak signal coming from HZ1PS, Peter, in Saudi Arabia. The Saudi station was about S1 on highest peaks, but very understandable. The noise level was below S-Zero even with the Preamp (2nd stage) turned on. The Saudi station was calling for check-ins to the Royal Navy Amateur Radio Society, RNARS.

Jim, 9H1RN, keyed up the radio and gave his call sign. I was SHOCKED to hear HZ1PS come back and acknowledge him and invite him into the net. My radio was running "barefoot" at only 100 watts, so **what a surprise!** I had never tried to call anyone whose signal was that weak (S zero to S1). But, Jim believed it could be done, and, sure enough, it worked. After a few transmissions back and forth with Net Control, another station checked in. It was WA1HMY, Bill, in Bolton, MA. Then N4XAT, Bob, in Villas, NJ, checked in. Meanwhile, 4Z5PI, Mike, in Israel logged into my remote server and was listening too. He was then invited to join in and before long there was a round-table net going on and everyone was having a great time.

Why do I tell you this story? Because Jim, 9H1RN, who is actually G4TDS, wrote to me afterwards and shared this with me:

"I am a British national aged 60 yrs. My first call-sign was G6HNM (1981) followed by G4TDS (1983). Both these call-signs are lifetime issued. In 2004 I relocated to Malta and was granted the call-sign 9H1RN. This call-sign was given for the many years radio training I had given in Malta and to commemorate the links Malta has with the Royal Navy. I have been a Comms Instructor for the RNR holding the rank of S/Lt. I am a member of the Royal Naval Amateur Radio Society (3355) and maintained the societies web site for many years.

My wife Yvonne is a Taiwan National and disabled with Cerebral Palsy (CP) from birth. She is physically impaired but still managed to get her degree in Chinese Literature from the Top University in Taiwan. When my work as a Project Manager with the Luxury Yacht business finished and turning 60, I decided should anything happen to me Yvonne would receive the best support from her family. Hence the relocation to Taiwan.

Taiwan does not recognise Foreign Radio Qualifications and I am required to sit the local examinations again in Mandarin Chinese before qualifying for a BV call-sign. I had to leave in Malta my Military Communications Landrover, FT897 plus ATAS antenna and my favourite Clansman RT320 Manpack radio together with all my diving equipment (PADI Diving Instructor).

Trying to acquire any radio equipment in Taiwan is a nightmare. My only means of maintain my hobby and keeping in touch with friends is via Echo-Link and Hamsphere. Finding the RCForb software and host's like yourself has put me back on the map and keeping me from going insane. I am mainly a cw operator and familiar with the MCW operating mode (adjust the audio level for 50W max).

Best regards

Peter Banner (Jim)

9H1RN / G4TDS / G6HNM / RNARS-3355

Royal Naval Officers Association (Malta)"

But the best part of the story is this: Jim had not been able to communicate with these other members of the RNARS for about 2 years. And this day he was making up for lost time. They stayed on the air for about 1 hour, 45 minutes, until conditions got so poor that the Saudi station couldn't hear or be heard well enough to continue.

What a rich experience for me, to be the Remote Hams station that hosted this event. If you are interested in setting up your station for remote access via RemoteHams.com, just go to their website and download their Client app first and connect to my station. Then when you download their server (RCForb.exe), you will be ready to do the same as I have done.

Ray - N4GYN

Beginner's Corner

By David Harden, KJ4CMY

I have some more information on the Baofeng UV-5R radio to share this month. While looking at ham radios on YouTube, I came across this interesting video:

Baofeng UV-5R Review and Set-Up

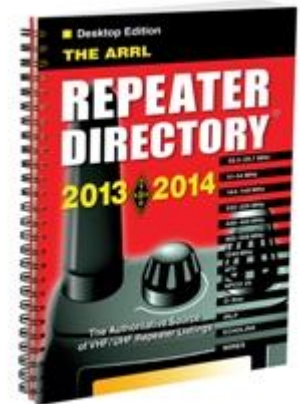
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=56PvtAqacz8>

This should give Baofeng owners (or potential owners) a good look on how to set this radio up, which brings up the topic for this month:

Programming your radio

Assuming that you have purchased a radio, setting up to talk on it would be the next logical step in getting on the air. You might ask, "How do I go about finding the frequencies to program into my new radio?" Glad you asked! There are several sources. Perhaps the most popular is the ARRL Repeater Directory.

This book comes out every couple years, and is perhaps the most comprehensive source for repeater information. This book has just about every repeater on every band in the U.S. and Canada. There is a large edition (shown above), a pocket-sized edition, and an edition on CD-rom. You can get a copy from Ham Radio Outlet, from the ARRL directly, or from just about any ham radio dealer on the web. When I first programmed my new HT, I looked up Georgia and located every repeater that looked like it was close to Atlanta, and entered them all. The nice thing about this repeater directory is that you can find frequencies for anywhere in the country, so when it comes time to travel, you can look up your destination (and cities en-route) and enter them into your radio before you go.



Another great source is the Internet. I looked up one called RepeaterBook.com (<http://www.repeaterbook.com/>) and found it to be comprehensive. Another site is *Artscipub* (<http://www.artscipub.com/repeaters/>). Also typing something like "Georgia amateur repeaters" or "Atlanta area repeaters" should yield a wealth of sites.

I have found that looking for club web sites will yield a lot of information. Most amateur radio clubs have repeaters, and they will almost always have their repeater information on their site.

Last but not least, ask fellow GARS members. It is fair to say that nearly every club member has at least one HT, and would be willing to share their list of repeaters with you. Keep in mind that there are a lot of variables between what you might be able to pick up and what other club members have. Things like location, height, and antenna types will change from ham to ham.

Don't forget to enter the simplex frequencies, as well.

73 de *David*, KJ4CMY

GARS Membership Page

New GARS Members in April

Nicholas Doemland (KM4AAL)
John Findley (W4JHF)
Drew Howard (KK4VEO)
Daniel Leahr (N8KCM)
Samuel McClure (KM4AAO)
Earl Meggison (KC4CCE)
David Miller (KM4ANC)
Joseph Trunk (AA8XR)

New Members: 8

**Total Members as of May1, 2014
- 277-**

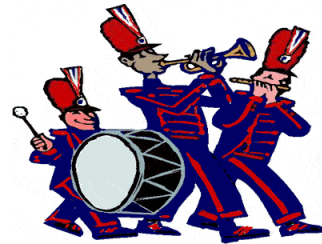
Join us for our weekly breakfast gathering at
7:30 AM most Saturdays at:
Golden Corral
2155 Riverside Parkway
Lawrenceville, GA 30043
([Directions](#))

Also, before our Tuesday meeting you are invited to join
other GARS members and guests dining at:
The Flying Machine (starting about 5:30 PM)
510 Briscoe Blvd. NE
Lawrenceville, GA
([Directions](#))

**The following members are
celebrating birthdays
in May:**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!
From All of Us at GARS

Timothy Atkin
William Bentley (KJ4MXM)
Larry Florea (KG4PYS)
Steve Garrison (N4TTY)
Roberto Gonzalez (KA7RGR)
Bill Grimes (KK4AUA)
Alvin Hartley (KJ4QIA)
Michael Lange (K4MDL)
Jeff Lee (AF4JL)
Frederick Love (KK4VEP)
Sandra Lovelace (KF4BUW)
David Mattison (KD4PCK)
Timothy McFadden (N8NYH)
Anita Morris (KG4AJX)
Thaddeus (Ted) Ruchalski (KK4DFM)
Robert Sanctuary (N4YWR)
Adrian (Ade) Shamblin (KJ4CUI)
Larry White (KB0BH)



GARS MEMBERSHIP

To become a GARS member, or to renew your GARS membership, please visit our website—<http://www.gars.org>

To make changes to your GARS membership (moved, new email address, new phone number, etc.),
please email the Membership Committee - membership@gars.org

You can **renew or update** your Amateur Radio license information with the FCC at their website for free
<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/index.htm?job=home>

To update your ARRL information, please visit their website - <http://www.arrl.org>

Membership Chairman: Karen Albritton, KI4HPP

Committee Members: Richard Atkin, KJ4ZTY.

Net Managers Corner

Hello everyone, from N4LNE, GARS Net Manager.

GARS NEEDS YOUR HELP

GARS is a great amateur radio service club and we have the membership and awards to prove it. Our club is a very busy and active club and we use the Monday night net to get the information out to our members. We need weekly participation to make our net function and to keep them interesting. We have a very small group of very dedicated people that make the net happen each week but we need more help.

Out of over 250 members we have **only six primary people** that run every Monday Night Net. In no particular order they are:

Norm - WA4ZXV
Hal - W4IGE
Ray - N4GYN
Sandy - KJ4DRO
John - WB4QDX
Bill - KK4AUA

I need 40 people to fill NCS and ANCS positions. The schedule is planned and posted months in advance and is flexible. If your plans change we can and do make adjustments to make it work, and I make those changes happen as soon as I am notified of a problem. I also send out reminders each week to let you know you are scheduled for the next Monday night net. In short we make it simple. All you need to do is show up, read the script, take a few notes and forward the information to me for record keeping.

Please lend a hand and contact me at the monthly GARS meeting or by sending me a message via the [Mentors & Elmers](#) page on the web site at www.gars.org. Signup to help support the effort that makes GARS the great club that it is.

73'

See you on the Nets!

Phil, N4LNE
Net Manager



Upcoming TOPICS for the "KNOW IT ALL" Net Thursday nights, 8:30-9:30 pm

May-07 Hamfest
May-14 Tuner
May-21 Field Day
May-28 Antennas

Everyone is having great fun on this net! Come join us and become a "KNOW IT ALL".

TIME: 8:30 every Wednesday evening on the GARS repeater - 2m 147.075 +, PL 82.5
6m 53.110 - No Tone
70cm 442.100 + PL 100.0

ARRL CONTESTING INFO

(All names of contests are Links in .pdf version)

June

14-16 [June VHF](#)

15 [Kids Day](#)

28-29 [Field Day](#)

July

12-13 [IARU HF World Championship](#)

August

2-3 [August UHF](#)

16-17 [10 GHz & Up – Round 1](#)

17 [Rookie Roundup – RTTY](#)



[June VHF](#)

For amateurs in the US and Canada (and their possessions) to work as many amateur stations in as many different 2 degrees x 1 degree Maidenhead grid squares as possible using authorized frequencies above 50 MHz. Stations outside the US & Canada (and their possessions) may only work stations in the US (and its possessions) and Canada.

Stations in KH0-9, KL7 & KP1-KP5, CY9 and CY0 count as W/VE stations and can be worked by DX stations for contest credit.

[About Kids Day](#)

Twice a year, ARRL offers an event designed to promote Amateur Radio to our youth. Share the excitement with your kids or grand-kids, a Scout troop, a church or the general public!

Kids Day is designed to give on-the-air experience to youngsters and hopefully foster interest in getting a license of their own. It is also intended to give older hams a chance to share their station and love for Amateur Radio with their children.

[Field Day is part educational event, part operating event, part public relations event – and ALL about FUN!](#)

[Objective:](#)

To work as many stations as possible on any and all amateur bands (excluding the 60, 30, 17, and 12-meter bands) and to learn to operate in abnormal situations in less than optimal conditions. Field Day is open to all amateurs in the areas covered by the ARRL/RAC Field Organizations and countries within IARU Region 2. DX stations residing in other regions may be contacted for credit, but are not eligible to submit entries.

HAMFEST CALENDAR

Southeast US

05/17/2014 | [FreeGate 2014](#)

Location: Greensboro, NC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: RFMD Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://kd4rf.org>

05/24/2014 | [DurHamFest](#)

Location: Bahama, NC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Durham FM Association

Website: <http://dfma.org>

05/24/2014 | [WormFest 2014](#)

Location: Pinellas Park, FL

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: The Glorious Society of the Worm-hole

Website: <http://www.TheWormholeSociety.org>

06/07/2014 | [Georgia Section Convention \(Atlanta Hamfest\)](#)

Location: Marietta, GA

Type: ARRL Convention pending Executive Committee approval

Sponsor: Atlanta Radio Club (W4DOC) & Kennehoochee Amateur Radio Club (W4BTI)

Website: <http://www.atlantahamfest.org>

07/26/2014 | [Cullman ARC Hamfest](#)

Location: Cullman, AL

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Cullman Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://cullmanarc.webs.com/>

08/16/2014 | [Southeastern Division Convention \(Huntsville Hamfest\) - "REGIONAL ARRL CENTENNIAL EVENT"](#)

Location: Huntsville, AL

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Huntsville Hamfest Association

Website: <http://www.hamfest.org>

BSA Venture Crew 73 Wants You!

IF YOU are between 14 and 21 years old, enjoy outdoor activities, and have an interest in radio technology, **Venture Crew 73 is for you.**

- Venture Crews are part of the Boy Scouts of America.
- *Venture crew 73 is chartered by the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society.*
- Venture crew 73 is coed.
- *Meetings are on the second Tuesday of the month, 7:00 pm, at EAA 690 Hangar at:
Briscoe Field - Sports Aviation Complex
Hangar 1, 690 Airport Road
Lawrenceville, GA 30045*
- Crew 73 is a youth-run organization, which means that our Crew President and other youth plan the Crew's outings and activities each month.

We enjoy:

- ♦ *Camping*
- ♦ *Hiking*
- ♦ *Horseback Riding*
- ♦ *Shooting Sports*

- Crew activities usually mix high adventure and the use of Amateur Radio.
- For more information, attend our next meeting or contact:

Steve Back, WB2OGY

Venture Crew 73 Committee Chairman
Phone: 770-712-9069

Email: committeechair@venturecrew73.org


















Jeff Lee, AF4JL

Venture Crew 73 Advisor
Phone: 678-475-3165




Email: advisor@venturecrew73.org



G A R S Officers and Committee Chairs

Rick Cobb, President	N4XYX	
Mike Weathers, Vice President	ND4V	
Allison Lynch, Secretary	KZ3JFY	
Sid Weaver, Treasurer	N4NQ	
Mike Smith, Program Manager	KK4KHS	
Karen Albritton Membership Chairman	KI4HPP	
Dave Bruse, Ham Exam Team Leader	W4DTR	
David Adcock, Webmaster, Field Day Chairman	KA4KKF	
Dorothy Jubon, Public Information Officer	N2DLJ	
Ralph Pickwick TechFest Chair, Apparel Mgr	KJ4CNC	
Ray Bailey, GARzette Editor	N4GYN	
Jeff Cutchins Multimedia Chairman	AB4HF	
John Ackermann, W4GR Trustee	N8UR	
Eddie Foust, Repeater Chairman	WD4JEM	
Mike Weathers, WAS-Checker, Historian	ND4V	
Phil McCleary, Net Manager, ELMER Chair	N4LNE	
Mike Swiderski, Technical Advisor	K4HBI	

DIRECTORS

Kyle Albritton	W4KDA	
David Adcock	KA4KKF	
Norm Schklar	WA4ZXV	

Helen Campbell Wireless Operator, 1917

A Hunter College student licensed as a wireless operator during World War I



GARS Recurring Calendar

- ◆ Monthly club meeting is the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7 pm
- ◆ Every Monday at 8 pm: GARS Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net on the GARS 2-meter repeater
- ◆ Every Wednesday at 8:30 pm: GARS Know It All Net on the GARS 2-meter repeater
- ◆ Every Thursday at 9 pm: GARS Round Table Net, 2 & 6 Meters

Every Saturday at 7:30 am: GARS Weekly Family Breakfast, Golden Corral Restaurant, Riverside Drive, Lawrenceville

- * GARS President Rick Cobb, N4XYY, brought the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
- Introductions of first time visitors were made.
- * An announcement was made that the HamCram had great results – 8 out of 8 passed.
- * Steve Back, WB2OGY, announced that JOTA is looking for 14-21 year olds to join youth group.
- * Introductions of attendees was made.
- * Treasurer's Report – given by Sid Weaver, N4NQ.
- * Membership Chairman Karen Albritton, KI4HPP, reported that GARS has 274 members.
- * Program Manager Mike Smith, KK4KHS:
Programs over next three months geared to help new and experienced hams. There will be a program for Field Day to help operators feel more comfortable on the air.
- * Upcoming events were announced:
QSO Party: Kyle Albritton, W4KDA, announced that the QSO Party will be held at Harbins Park on April 12th and 13th.
Satellites in the Park: Hal Collier, W4IGE, announced that Satellites in the Park will take place on May 3rd at Bogan Park
May Madness: Earl Whatley, AF4FG, announced that May Madness will begin on Friday, May 2nd at 6:00 p.m. and go through Sunday, May 11th at 11:59 p.m.
Dacula Memorial Day Parade: Earl Whatley, AF4FG, announced that the Dacula Memorial Day Parade is a fun half-day community service project. A sign-up sheet was passed around.
Field Day: David Adcock, KA4KKF, announced that Field Day will be at Harbins Park on the 4th full weekend in June. Next month's program will include information regarding logging software and Field Day questions.
The June 10th meeting is the ice cream social at Harbins Park.

There is a testing session for all license grades on Sunday, April 13 at 2:00 p.m. The exam fee is \$14.

Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV, invited everyone to the South-eastern DX meeting next Thursday, April 17th.

The Field Day t-shirts are available. The price is \$10 without pocket; \$12 with pocket. Order them on the GARS website. The shirts will be passed out at the ice cream social on June 10th.

Steve Back, WB2OGY, needs someone to sign up as a merit badge counsellor for Scoutland. A request will be put on the reflector.

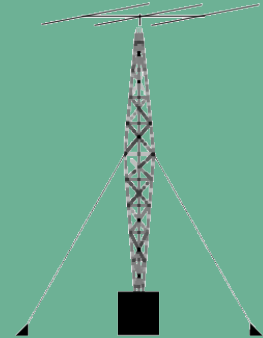
BREAK

- * Mike Smith, KK4KHS and Mike Weathers, ND4V, did an excellent program: "Operating and Ethics" regarding etiquette on ham radio.
- * Prize drawings were made.
There were 77 people in attendance.
- * The meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Allison Lynch, KZ3JFY, Secretary

Looking Back

A BIG thanks to Bill Cherepy, WB4WTN for sharing this picture with us.



Washington, D.C., 1931. "Man with portable radio receiver and phonograph." He seems to be using the amplifier to play a record into a microphone. Note the handy "Radio Spectrum" chart on the wall. Harris & Ewing glass negative.

GARS CALENDAR OF EVENTS MAY 2014

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
8:00 pm - 8:30 pm GARS 2m Net		8:30 pm - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All Net	1	2	3 7:30 am - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive	4
5 8:00 pm - 8:30 pm GARS 2m Net	6 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm GARS Exec Meeting	7 8:30 pm - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All Net	8	9 RELAY for LIFE Time: 7:00 Lawrenceville Fair Grounds	10	11 <u>MOTHER'S DAY!</u>
12 8:00 pm - 8:30 pm GARS 2m Net	13 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM Dinner at Flying Machine 7:00pm - 9:00pm GARS Meeting	14 8:30 pm - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All Net	15	16	17 7:30 am - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive	18
19 8:00 pm - 8:30 pm GARS 2m Net	20	21 8:30 pm - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All Net	22	23	24 GA QSO Party 18:00Z to 03:59Z Brkfst @ Golden Corral	25
26 <u>MEMORIAL DAY</u> 8:00 pm - 8:30 pm GARS 2m Net	27	28 8:30 pm - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All Net	29	30	31 7:30 am - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive	

Metro Testing Sessions	Ham Exam Results	Metro Club Meetings
<p><i>GARS publishes Metro Atlanta VE exam schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions. Find additional sessions online at http://www.arrl-ga.org.</i></p> <p>First Sunday, ODD Months 2 pm (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, & Nov) WCARS VEC Braselton Public Utility Building 4986 Highway 53, Braselton, GA Roger Gibson, WB4T (770) 271-4210 or (770) 712-9560 w4rlg@bellsouth.net</p> <p>First Sunday, EVEN Months 2 pm (Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec) WCARS VEC Hall County EOC 470 Crescent Dr. Gainesville, Ga. Perry Roper, KO4RD (770) 536-3056</p> <p>Second Saturday, ODD Months ARRL VEC 8:30 a.m. Stone Mountain Methodist Church 5312 West Mountain St. Stone Mountain Bob Varone, W4ETN (770) 978-3179</p> <p>Second Sunday VEC: W5YI 2 pm Gwinnett County Fire Station #5 3001 Old Norcross Road Duluth, GA 30096 Contact: Dave Bruse, W4DTR Email: exams@gars.org</p> <p>Third Saturday VEC: W5YI 2 pm (Except December) Lifeway Church 1654 Atlanta Highway #109 Steve Donellan, N5SMD (404) 520-0368 Email: n5smd@comcast.net</p> <p><i>(cont. next column)</i></p>	<p>We had an excellent exam session Sunday April 4th.</p> <p>4 out of 6 applicants passed.</p> <p><u>Ham exam session results:</u> - 2 upgraded to Technician - 2 upgraded to General</p> <p>Thanks to the VE's who made this exam session possible:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sid Weaver, N4NQ (Co-CVE) - Bob Pursley, WD4KQQ - Steve Back, WB2OGY - Frank Haynes, KV4SP - Jim Webb, W4NTA <p>73, <i>Sid</i> N4NQ</p> <p>Email: exams@gars.org</p> <p>GARS VE Website: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ARS_VE_Team/</p> <p>Fourth Tuesday ARRL VEC 7 pm @ United Way Service Center 6279 Fairburn Rd., Douglasville Jessie Clower, KB4WFK (770) 942-6466</p> <p>Fourth Sunday 2:30 pm Georgia Tech VanLeer Elec. Building Rm. W218, 777 Atlantic Dr. See www.w4aql.com Alexander G. Carver (404) 894-2936 acarver@ece.gatech.edu</p>	<p>First Tuesday Kennehoochee ARC Downtown Marietta Fire Station #1, Training Room 112 Haynes Street Marietta, Georgia 30060 Meeting begins at 7:00pm Talk In 146.880(-)</p> <p>First Thursday Atlanta Radio Club Georgia Red Cross HQ 1955 Monroe Dr., Atlanta Meeting is at 7:30pm Talk In -146.820(-) N.E. Georgia ARC Commerce Public Library Meeting is at 6:30pm Talk In - 147.225(+) PL 123.0</p> <p>Second Monday Georgia Tech ARC Room W218 Van Leer Electrical Engineering Bldg. Georgia Tech Campus Meeting at 7:00pm</p> <p>Second Thursday Alford Memorial Radio Club Annistown Road Baptist Church Intersection of Annistown Rd & Spain Rd Stone Mountain Dinner at 6:00pm Meeting at 7:30pm Talk In - 146.760(-)</p> <p>Second Saturday North GA QRP Club Board Room of The Shepherd Center at 2020 Peachtree Rd, NW, Atlanta at 10:00 AM</p> <p>Third Tuesday North Fulton Amateur Radio League Alpharetta Recreation & Parks Dept Alpharetta Adult Activity Center 13450 Cogburn Road Alpharetta, GA 30004 meeting at 7:30pm Talk In - 145.47(-) For more, go to: http://www.gars.org/</p>

Ham Radio Fun

Ham Radio never stops amazing me. In the short time I've been on HF and with my current work schedule I've really enjoyed the very little time I have to play with my radio. I don't have a very elaborate setup but it works. In the last 4 months I've logged 56 countries and 49 states. It's funny but the only state I haven't had confirmation on yet is Alabama. I have collected lots of QSL cards both by mail and through EQL. Of course I don't think I'll be printing those since it's hundreds of them. I rarely use spotter networks. They seem to take the fun out of the hunt. I really enjoy the hobby. I'm not sure what I'm supposed to do with all these QSL cards though. For now they're just stuck up on the wall. My grand kids get a real kick out of them. I've sent out lots of them also. I have 9 going out in the mail tomorrow. But with the help of others I don't need 9 stamps. Pretty Cool!! But I've bought more stamps in the last few months than I have in years. I think the postal service appreciates that.

I'd like to send QSL cards to GARS club members though on HF but I can't seem to find anyone. I do hear some GA hams on 40 and 80 but never on any other band. Since my shack and my office are the same I listen on 3975 when I'm doing other things. Not sure why but it seemed like a good place to park.

I had one of my radios quit working. I could only put out a carrier and no audio. It's my old Kenwood FT-450D. I took it all apart and I mean all apart. Cleaned it up, made a couple of adjustments and put it back together. I never thought it would ever work again but it did much to my surprise. I made a bunch of cables up for mics and to hook my radio to my 15 year old laptop pc that I can use it for JT65 and PSK31. Works great! Of course I'm lousy at soldering so I'll never show anyone my handiwork. HI HI. I'd like to try 160 meters one day but I have no idea yet how I could get an antenna up for it.

I haven't been able to attend any meetings with GARS because I'm normally in the bed by 8pm since I have to get up at 4am. The only good news is I plan to retire (finally) at the end of this year. That's if I don't fall apart before then. Really looking forward to it. Then I'll have more time to play.

If my schedule permits I'd like to work with GARS on Field Day. I'm planning on making sure I get those days off but I can't make any promises at this point.

Thanks for your support,

Charlie Corriveau - K4YDB

[Reprinted from GARS@yahoogroups.com. Ed.]

The GARzette

The GARzette is the official monthly newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society, serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the Amateur Radio art.

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If possible, bring your articles to the monthly meeting in Microsoft Word or rich text (.rtf) or text or HTML format or by email to n4gyn@arrl.net. Artwork can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted via email to the same address. Alternate means of submittal can be arranged when necessary.

In keeping with the Amateur Radio spirit, permission is hereby granted for the reproduction of The GARzette articles by other Amateur Radio club newsletters provided that proper credit is given to the individual author and The GARzette.

The GARzette is published each month with the assistance of Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV who prints copies for distribution at meetings, etc. and Dave Bruse, W4DTR, who distributes the news letter electronically.

Deadline for submissions is the 28th of each month for inclusion in the following month's issue.

For additional information view our Website at: <http://www.gars.org>

Newsletter Editor: Ray Bailey—N4GYN
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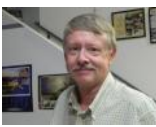


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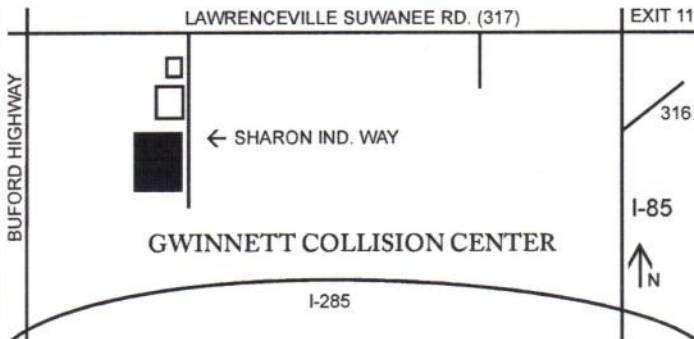
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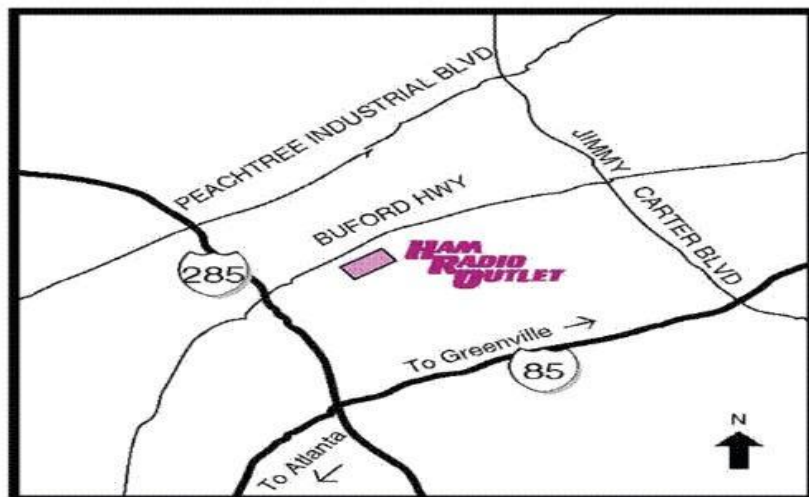
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